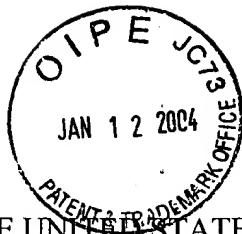


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00862.002957.



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KAZUHIRO NAKATA

Application No.: 09/363,823

Filed: July 30, 1999

For: DATA PROCESSING METHOD,  
DATA PROCESSING  
APPARATUS AND IMAGE  
PRINTING APPARATUS

)  
:  
Examiner: T. Lamb

)  
:  
Group Art Unit: 2622

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:  
January 7, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

January 7, 2004  
(Date of Deposit)

Peter G. Thurlow

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

*Peter G. Thurlow*  
Signature

January 7, 2004  
Date of Signature

The cited references were called to Applicant's attention in the European Search Report dated November 1, 2003, for counterpart European Patent Application No. 99306090. A copy of that Search Report is also enclosed.

Applicant submits that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

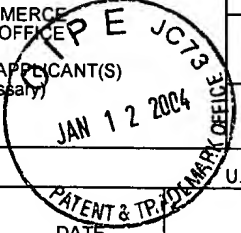
Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 47,138

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.002957.		APPLICATION NO. 09/363,823	
				APPLICANT KAZUHIRO NAKATA			
				FILING DATE July 30, 1999		GROUP 2622	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,768,484	06/16/98	Arai et al.	395	145	
		5,084,831	01/28/92	Morikawa et al.	395	116	
		5,570,464	10/29/96	Fuse	395	105	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.